

## Contributions

### GOD THE CREATOR

C. H. WETHERBE

I have just been reading anew the first chapter of Genesis, and while I was reading it I was contrasting its statements with those of the rationalistic scientists who maintain that the existence of this earth and the creatures therein was the result of natural evolution. And as I pondered on this contrast I concluded that they must be fools who deny to God the praise of having created, by his own infinite might, this earth and the things therein. It does seem to me that he is an infidel, to a considerable extent at least, who denies that God was the supreme, unique, original Creator of "the heaven and the earth." It matters nothing to me whether the days of creation were twenty-four hours long or one thousand years. What my faith clings to, and what it is based on, is the definite statement of divine inspiration that "God created the heaven and the earth." Concerning the whole category of things spoken of in the creation—chapter of Genesis, it is repeatedly declared that God created them, that he made them, that he gave them. And of the first human pair of beings it is said: "And God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them." Again, we read: "And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good." Animate and inanimate existences were not the result of evolutionary processes. They did not come into being by any sort of natural forces. Back of them and infinitely greater than them all was the uncreated Creator, God. And God had motive, intention and plan in all his creative acts. These contemplated the future ages. They included Christ, both as a Mediator and as a Saviour. It was thro Christ that all worlds were made, and thro him also, a future fallen world was to be redeemed and glorified.

Let us never in any way belittle God's work as a sovereign Creator. We should adore him as being the great first cause of all things and all beings. He occupies no second place either in creation or in redemption. He is God over all, blessed forever.

### THE NEW COMMANDMENT

B. C. KINZIE

A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another: as I have loved you, that ye have love one to another. John 13:34.

We see in this text both an old and a new commandment. John calls this command of love old, because, he says that it is "the word which ye have heard from the beginning."

Again he says that it is a new commandment "because the darkness is past

and the true light now shineth." Then this command or instruction of love is new because of the new *light* given to it by Christ himself, who is light, "the light of the world," before whose sacred presence darkness has fled and the saving light of his gospel now shines upon the path that leads from earth to heaven.

Then the newness of this instruction is not in the matter of *love* for that had been taught them from the beginning of his ministry, and had been taught by all the holy men of God from the beginning of the old law. But the newness of it is the extent of love. Then this subject of love is a familiar one, but the Master when about to leave them, calls their attention to it as a new commandment. Then we must conclude that he put some new construction upon it, the measure or extent of that love, "Even as I have loved you." "These things I command you, that ye love one another."

Then, dear reader, God demands your love, and justly too, for he is love. Jesus desires your love for he has first loved you. The church needs your love for without love it is impossible to please God. O! that we might become more like Jesus: have more love for the salvation of souls, forget self and trust more to him to perfect the works of love within us.

The churches' greatest need today is, more consecrated workers, more love and less selfishness. More of "the love of God shed abroad in our hearts." More of the love that sacrifices self for the welfare of others. More of the love that sacrifices of the means with which God has blessed us, that the cause of Christ may be advanced. For "God commendeth his love toward us in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

Yes, Christ died for us, and that too while we were sinners, enemies to him. O, what a sacrifice! What love! To die for the ungodly. Can we fathom the depths of a love that, in the agonies of a cruel death at the hands of an infuriated mob can cry out and say, "Father forgive them for they know not what they do." Then as we have already said, it is the extent of love that constitutes the newness of the command.

Then let brotherly love be widely disseminated among us, for Paul says as touching this, "Ye need that I write unto you: for ye yourselves are taught of God to love one another. But this matter of love does not end here, for again we read, "If ye fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, thou shalt love thy neighbor as thy self." James says if we do this we do well; but this is not all, for Jesus has said that we must love our enemies and pray for them that persecute and despitefully use us. If we can do this from a pure heart full of the love of God then envyings, strifes, contentions and all that mar the peace

and progress of the church will have no place among us. Let us all labor and pray earnestly that this spirit of love may become more and more manifest among us. That we may purify our souls "in obeying the truth thro the the spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently, being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever."

In my next I wish to write concerning the Armenians and their needs. My attention has recently been very forcibly directed to this oppressed people standing as it were between the priests of the Roman and Greek Catholic churches calling across the Atlantic to send protestant teachers to help them. Surely this is the Macedonian call, "Come over and help us." Will we heed it?

### OUR WORDS

DORA HAMAN

What a mighty weapon for good or evil is the human tongue.

James says all manner of beasts and birds and serpents and of things in the sea is tamed and hath been tamed of mankind but the tongue can no man tame.

There with bless we God and there with curse we man, which are made after the similitude of God.

If we could but realize the awful importance of these words of Jesus. Matt. 12:36, 37. But I say unto you that every idle word that man shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified and by thy words thou shalt be condemned. I think our daily conversation would be well seasoned with grace. As out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh, so if our hearts are right our words will be right. How much good we can do, how many lives we may gladden, how much we can accomplish for God by being ever ready to tell of his love and care.

I think there was a wonderful magnetism about the voice of Christ, and that it was his loving words and kind looks that drew the sick, the sinful to his side. Shall we not be like our Master? See the sad, care-worn face brighten at your cheery good morning, the weary heart take fresh courage at your timely words of help. If we only speak three kind words a day, in a year we have spoken one thousand and ninety-five words. What a record. Far better to give the loved ones the kind words and smiles now than to erect costly monuments and strew their graves with flowers. It takes but a moment for the harsh angry word to be spoken. How much we would give to recall it.

Cruel words may part friends for life